

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-13 (Previously Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) A sports drink, comprising viable lactobacilli having a positive effect on human intestinal mucosa.

15. (Previously Presented) A sports drink comprising micronutrients in combination with conventional additives for sports drinks, and viable lactobacilli having a positive effect on human intestinal mucosa.

16. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, comprising one or several strains of *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Lactobacillus casei*, *Lactobacillus fermentum*, *Lactobacillus paracasei*, *Lactobacillus plantarum*, *Lactobacillus reuteri*, and *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* in a therapeutically effective amount.

17. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, wherein the micronutrients are selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, vitamin E, carotenoids, pyridoxine, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, cobalamin, folacin, Q10, flavonoids, copper, magnesium, manganese, selenium, zinc and chromium.

18. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, comprising per 1000 g

ascorbic acid	500-1200 mg
vitamin E	250-375 mg
$\beta$ -carotene	15-25 mg
pyridoxine	15-25 mg
sodium	20-60 mg

potassium	60-100 mg
copper	0.5-1.5 mg
magnesium	120-175 mg
manganese	1-3 mg
selenium	0.05-0.15 mg
zinc	5-15 mg

19. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, which comprises proteins, optionally in combination with amino acids.

20. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 19, wherein the protein is a whey protein or whey protein hydrosylate.

21. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, which comprises carbohydrates having a low glycemic index, optionally in combination with carbohydrates of a high glycemic index.

22. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, comprising per 1000 g

whey proteins	15-60 g
carbohydrates	40-150 g
micronutrients	1-2 g
probiotic strain of	$5 \cdot 10^7 - 5 \cdot 10^8$ cfu/ml
Lactobacillus	

23. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 15, comprising per 1000 g:

whey protein isolate	15-60 g
mono- and disaccharides	40-150 g
micronutrients	1-2 g

L. plantarum DSM 9843  $5 \times 10^7 - 5 \times 10^8$  cfu/ml

24. (Previously Presented) A tablet for the preparation of a sports drink according to claim 15 in vivo or in vitro, comprising micronutrients in combination with freeze-dried, viable lactobacilli.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of treating stress symptoms, gastrointestinal disturbances, and lesions of the mucosal membrane of the intestines in an individual in need thereof, comprising providing the sports drink according to claim 15 to the individual wherein the sports drink is ingested by the individual in an amount sufficient to treat stress symptoms, gastrointestinal disturbances and lesions of the mucosal membrane.

26. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 14, comprising one or several strains of Lactobacillus acidophilus, Lactobacillus casei, Lactobacillus fermentum, Lactobacillus paracasei, Lactobacillus plantarum, Lactobacillus reuteri, and Lactobacillus rhamnosus in a therapeutically effective amount.

27. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 14, which comprises proteins, optionally in combination with amino acids.

28. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 27, wherein the protein is a whey protein or whey protein hydrolysate.

29. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 27, which comprises carbohydrates having a low glycemic index, optionally in combination with carbohydrates of a high glycemic index.

30. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 27, comprising per 1000 g

whey proteins	15-60 g
carbohydrates	40-150 g
micronutrients	1-2 g

probiotic strain of  $5 \times 10^7 - 5 \times 10^8$  cfu/ml

Lactobacillus

31. (Previously Presented) A sports drink according to claim 27, comprising per 1000 g:

whey protein isolate	15-60 g
mono- and disaccharides	40-150 g
micronutrients	1-2 g
<i>L. plantarum</i> DSM 9843	$5 \times 10^7 - 5 \times 10^8$ cfu/ml

32. (Previously Presented) A tablet for the preparation of a sports drink according to claim 27 in vivo or in vitro, comprising micronutrients in combination with freeze-dried, viable lactobacilli.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of treating stress symptoms, gastrointestinal disturbances, and lesions of the mucosal membrane of the intestines in an individual in need thereof, comprising providing the sports drink according to claim 15 to the individual wherein the sports drink is ingested by the individual in an amount sufficient to treat stress symptoms, gastrointestinal disturbances and lesions of the mucosal membrane.

34. (New) The sports drink according to claim 14, wherein the viable lactobacilli are selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus plantarum* 299, *Lactobacillus plantarum* 299v, *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* 271, *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG, *Lactobacillus casei rhamnosus* LB 21, *Lactobacillus casei* Shirota, *Lactobacillus johnsonii* Lj1 and *Lactococcus lactis* L1a.

35. (New) The sports drink according to claim 34, wherein the viable lactobacilli are *Lactobacillus plantarum* 299v.

36. (New) The sports drink according to claim 15, wherein the viable lactobacilli are selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus plantarum* 299, *Lactobacillus plantarum*

Application No. 09/926,586

Reply to Office Action of November 17, 2003.

*299v, Lactobacillus rhamnosus 271, Lactobacillus rhamnosus GG, Lactobacillus casei rhamnosus LB 21, Lactobacillus casei Shirota, Lactobacillus johnsonii Lj1 and Lactococcus lactis L1a.*

37. (New) The sports drink according to claim 36, wherein the viable lactobacilli are *Lactobacillus plantarum 299v*.